

Appl. No. : 10/827,095
Filed : April 19, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) In a grip for the handle of an impact imparting device, a flexible strip comprising:

a polyurethane layer having its lower surface bonded to the upper surface of a felt layer;

a recessed reinforcement surface formed on a first side edge of the polyurethane layer;

the felt layer of the first side edge being slanted upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the felt layer;

a compressed densified area formed on the second side edge of the polyurethane layer;

the second side of the strip slanting upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the felt layer; and

~~an adhesive on the underside of the felt layer; and~~

the ~~underside of the~~ second side edge of the strip adapted to overlap ~~being adhesively engageable with the upper surface of the~~ first side edge of the strip to form a smooth watertight juncture between such first and second side edges of the strip.

2-9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) A golf club grip comprising:

a flexible strip that includes a polyurethane layer having its lower surface bonded to the upper surface of a felt layer;

a heat formed recessed reinforcement surface formed on a first side edge of the polyurethane layer;

a heat compressed densified area formed on the second side edge of the polyurethane layer;

the felt layer of the first side edge slanting upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the felt layer;

the second side edge of the strip slanting upwardly and outwardly along the felt and polyurethane layers;

an underlining sleeve; and

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the strip adapted to be spirally wrapped about the sleeve with the second side edge of the strip overlying the first side edge of the strip to form a relatively smooth surface.

11. (New) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 10 wherein the overlying edges form a seam and the seam does not exceed 0.5mm in width.

12. (New) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 10 wherein the underlisting sleeve includes a cap and a nipple adapted to retain the strip.

13. (New) A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 11 wherein the underlisting sleeve includes a cap and a nipple adapted to retain the strip.

14. (New) A method of making a grip for the handle of an impact imparting device that includes the steps of:

providing a strip having a layer of polyurethane bonded to a layer of felt;

heat compressing a first side edge of the polyurethane layer to form a recessed reinforcement surface;

applying heat through the outside surface of the felt layer to the polyurethane layer at the second side edge of the strip to form a compressed densified area in such polyurethane layer;

skiving the first side edge of the strip upwardly and outward from the underside of the felt layer; and

skiving the felt layer of the second side edge of the strip upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the strip.

15. (New) A method of making a golf club handle grip that includes the steps of:

providing a strip having a layer of polyurethane bonded to a layer of felt;

heat compressing a first side edge of the polyurethane layer to form a recessed reinforcement surface;

applying heat through the outside surface of the felt layer to the polyurethane layer at the second side edge of the strip to form a compressed densified area in such polyurethane layer;

skiving the first side edge of the strip upwardly and outward from the underside of the felt layer;

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skiving the felt layer of the second side edge of the strip upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the strip; and
providing an underlisting sleeve.

16. (New) The method of Claim 15 wherein the underlisting is further provided with a cap and a nipple adapted to retain the strip.